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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE THE APPLICATION OF )

Michael G. Bunn )

SERIAL NO: 09/504,150 )

FILED: February 15, 2000 )

FOR: Printed Document )

Authentication )

GROUP 2766

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MAY 10 2002

Technology Center 2100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir,

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97-1.98, submitted herewith is Form PTO-1449 along with a copy of the single reference (US 5,652,794) identified therein. The European equivalent (EP 0 697 682) of this reference was cited in an office action from the European Patent Office dated February 21st 2002, which constitutes the first knowledge of the applicant of this reference. This Information Disclosure Statement is timely filed and no fee is required.

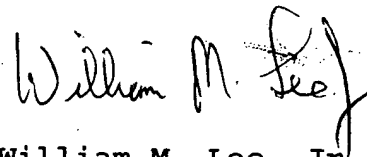
US 5,652,794 describes a method of securizing transmission of a fax document, which involves calculating a graphic seal in the form of a bar code. This can be used to avoid repudiation of the document by the sender.

However, it is believed that this reference does not contain any suggestion of a method as claimed in the present Claim 1, for enabling a printed document to be authenticated by an authority. It is therefore believed that the present invention is clearly patentable over this reference.

Examination of the application on its merits is awaited.

Date: 4/26/02

Respectfully Submitted



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